

BOROUGH OF



STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough
for the Year

1949

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector




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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Alderman S. Bassendine, J.P. (*Chairman*)

Councillor W. J. Aughton (*Vice-Chairman*)

Alderman Mrs. L. Scholes

Councillor J. W. Scotney

Councillor B. Clarke, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.

Councillor G. C. Swanson

Councillor E. S. S. Bowman, O.B.E., J.P.

Councillor A. H. Wilcox

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Councillor F. Boyfield (*Chairman*)

Alderman Mrs. L. Scholes (*Vice-Chairman*)

Councillor A. F. T. Jeeves

Councillor L. Large

Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.

Councillor W. J. Aughton

Councillor G. C. Swanson

Councillor T. H. Rosser, M.B.E.

Councillor A. H. Wilcox

Councillor L. J. Connor

Councillor E. S. S. Bowman, O.B.E., J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Part Time Medical Officer of Health :

W. ANLEY HAWES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. London

Sanitary Inspector :

L. J. Roll, A.R., San. I. Cert S.I.B.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall,
Stamford.
July 1950.

To the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the
Borough of Stamford.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health, sanitary conditions and vital statistics of the Borough for the year 1949.

The Infantile Mortality rate (24.6) although higher than the extremely low figure (12.0) of 1948 is very satisfactory in relation to that of the average for the country as a whole (32.0). There has been a slight increase in the Birth and Death rates compared with 1948.

During the Spring and Summer there was a prolonged epidemic of scarlet fever (66) and streptococcal sore throats mostly of a mild nature ; 5 cases of infantile paralysis occurred mainly in young adults and of a severe type but happily all patients made complete recoveries. There was an increase in the number of measles.

Model Bye-laws for the clean production and processing of food were adopted during the year and the relevant trades and business establishments notified, particular attention has been given to the manufacture and sale of ice cream. One case of suspected food poisoning was reported. Meat inspection has been carried out by Mr. Roll, the Sanitary Inspector, who has given much overtime to this highly important duty ; as will be realised when the number of carcasses found by him to be infected with T.B. is considered. As reported before, a serious gap from the public health point of view in the provision of safe meat for human consumption exists in the practice of sending animals as " casualties " for slaughter. Except for bona fide cases of accidents, no animals should be sent for slaughter as casualties without a certificate from a veterinary surgeon stating the actual condition or ailment, or if this certification be impossible, these animals should be slaughtered in completely separate establishments.

The water supplies have been adequate in quantity and quality. Regular bacteriological examinations have been made.

As reported by the Sanitary Inspector, one serious pollution of the river Welland occurred and steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

During the year, 22 new council houses have been built and the hutment camp in Empingham Road was taken over as temporary dwelling accommodation.

The provision of new houses at a suitable rent still remains the major problem in the Borough.

Details of other sanitary conditions, food inspection and housing will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report in the following pages.

I should like to thank the Council for their interest and help in health matters and the staff of the Public Health Department for their ready co-operation.

I am, ladies and gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. ANLEY HAWES.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	1918 acres
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	9946
Population (Registrar General's estimate 1949)	...	...	...	...	11140
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£67519
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	£264
Number of inhabited houses from rate book	...	...	...	...	3322

VITAL STATISTICS

	M	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS	89	73	162
Legitimate	83	69	
Illegitimate	6	4	
Rate per 1000 estimated population			15.2
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			16.7
STILL BIRTHS	M	F.	
Legitimate	2	—	
Illegitimate	1	—	
Rate per 1000 estimated population			0.26
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			0.39
DEATHS	M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	68	70	138
Death Rate per 1000 estimated population			12.3
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			11.7

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births		
(all causes)	...	24.6
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	32.0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	13.0
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	200.0
Deaths of infants under 2 years of age per 1000 live births		
from enteritis and diarrhoea	...	6.2
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	3.0

MATERNAL DEATHS

From Puerperal and/or abortion sepsis	...	0
Other Maternal causes	...	1
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	6.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	0.7

Causes of Deaths	Male	Female
All Causes	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
Influenza	1	—
Measles	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	—	—
Cancer	12	7
Diabetes	—	2
Intra-cranial lesions	7	13
Heart Disease	21	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	3
Bronchitis	3	4
Pneumonia	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	1
Appendicitis	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	3	—
Nephritis	1	2
Maternal Causes	—	1
Premature Births	1	—
Infantile Diseases	—	—
Suicide	—	1
Road Traffic Accidents	2	—
Other Violent Causes	1	2
All Other Causes	4	6

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Cancer of :						
	Buc : cav : & oesoph ; (m) uterus (f)	Stomach and duodenum	Breast Breast	All other sites	Total	Rate per 1,000 population
Male	1	1	—	—	12	1.0
Female	2	2	2	1	7	0.63
Total	3	3	2	11	19	1.7

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

Year	Borough	Corresponding Rate for England and Wales
1938	15.0	58.0
1939	49.3	50.0
1940	48.6	55.0
1941	75.4	59.0
1942	35.3	49.0
1943	21.3	49.0
1944	64.8	46.0
1945	22.0	46.0
1946	22.5	43.0
1947	28.5	41.0
1948	12.0	34.0
1949	24.6	32.0

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Causes of Death	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.
Premature Birth, Malformation etc	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	—	4

*dying outside the Borough.

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM.

Notifications received during the year.

Diseases	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	66	16	—
Pneumonia	11	2	1
Measles	92	1	—
Whooping Cough	52	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	5	4	—
Total	228	23	1

Age distribution of the Notified Infectious Diseases.

	Not Known.	Under 1.	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total.
Scarlet Fever			1	3	8	3	36	11	3		1					66
Pneumonia									3	1		2	2	1	1	11
Measles		7	10	17	5	7	46									92
Whooping Cough		5	6	7	6	3	24			1						52
Erysipelas													1			1
Puerperal Pyrexia										1						m 1
Poliomyelitis								1	1		2		1			5
Total	—	12	17	27	20	13	106	12	7	3	3	2	4	1	1	228

TUBERCULOSIS

	Deaths during 1949.				New cases during 1949.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 "	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total	1	2	—	—	5	3	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 ANNUAL RETURN OF M.O.H.

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health, (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.)

Premises	Number on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	21	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	73	74	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers)	1	1	—	—
Total	95	96	—	—

No. of cases in which defects were found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	2	—	—	—

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Under the County Council Scheme the Borough has two District Nurse Midwives, which number seems adequate for the town. Their services have been of great value.

Residence : 2, Adelaide Street, Stamford.

HOME HELPS

Home Helps for illness and maternity cases have been provided this year under the County Council Scheme, with their headquarters at Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford.

GENERAL HOSPITALS

Acute and Maternity admissions to :

Stamford and Rutland Hospital,
under No. 12 Area Peterborough Hospital Management
Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Chronic and Long term illness to :

St. George's Hospital, Stamford.

owing to shortage of beds, considerable difficulty has been experienced in admissions, particularly if female patients.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the Peterborough Management Committee. No difficulty with admissions has been experienced.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL

Child Welfare :

Weekly clinic—Fridays 2—4 p.m.
Barn Hill House.

Diphtheria Immunisation :

1st Thursday in the month 2—4 p.m.
Barn Hill House.

Free immunisation can also be arranged with the General Practitioners under the County Council Scheme.

No. of completed immunisations performed during the year by the Medical Officer of Health at Barn Hill Clinic :—

Pre-school age—56

School age—64

School Clinic :

Barn Hill House, Stamford, providing also Dental, Eye, Orthopaedic and Physiotherapy clinics.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Tuberculosis :

Weekly clinic—Tuesdays from 9.30 a.m.
Stamford Hospital.

Under Dr. C. Bernard Royce, Consulting Chest Physician,
Peterborough Group of Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities :

Bacteriological investigations are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. D. H. Fulton.

These investigations are extremely valuable and include examinations of milk and water samples.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water :

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Stamford Waterworks, owner The Marquess of Exeter, K.G., C.M.G.

Piped supplies are obtained from the following sources :—

Bone Mill (Well)	}	Situated in the Soke of Peterborough on the high ground South of Stamford.
Whitewater (Springs)		
Wothorpe (Springs)		

Northfields (Bore)	}	Situated in the Borough.
Ryhall Road (Bore)		

Water is derived from the Lincolnshire Limestone. Supplies have been adequate in quantity and have on the whole been satisfactory in quality, although sources at times show a temporary high coli count suggesting liability to periodical contamination for very short periods.

All supplies are chlorinated at source.

57 samples of raw water and 44 samples of chlorinated water were taken during the year, details are shown in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS made during 1949.

	Bone Mill	Northfields	Ryhall Road	Whitewater	Wothorpe
Nitrogen, Ammomiactal	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002
„ Albuminiod	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001
„ Nitrous	none	none	none	none	none
„ Nitric	0.449	0.154	0.444	0.274	0.413
Oxygen Absorbed in					
15 mins.	0.004	0.004	0.006	0.004	0.008
4 hours	0.017	0.012	0.033	0.012	0.037
Chlorine	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.40	2.50
„ expressed as sod- ium chlorine	4.03	4.13	4.13	3.96	4.13
Total Solid Matter dried at 100°C	43.0	75.0	55.0	47.0	53.0
Hardness, Temporary	21.50	33.00	22.75	22.75	26.55
Permanent	9.50	14.50	12.00	9.75	9.50
Metals, (copper, lead, iron, zinc)	trace of iron	trace of iron	trace of iron	trace of iron	trace of iron

ANALYST'S REPORT

“These waters in their present condition are in excellent condition and are suitable for all dietetic purposes.”

Estimated number of dwelling houses supplied from public mains :

- (a) direct to house—3122, represents a population of 10927.
(b) by stand-pipes— 200 ,, ,, 770.

Other items of sanitary circumstances are dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SCARLET FEVER

The year was marked by a prolonged epidemic of scarlet fever (66) and streptococcal sore throats, confined almost entirely to school children ; the origin and spread of infection as usual being the missed case of either tonsillitis or sub-clinical (very mild) scarlet fever. Clinically, the infection was of a mild character but some cases of prolonged illness from strobotococcal throats in school children occurred.

Measures to prevent spread included isolation and throat swabbing of patients and contacts—sterilization by boiling of school feeding utensils and stoving classrooms.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Local Bye-laws for securing the “ observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food ” were adopted during the year. Use is made of facilities for leaflets and posters issued by the Central Council for Health Education. Leaflets are distributed regularly at the Infant Welfare Centre in co-operation with the County Council.

HOUSING STATISTICS

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Statistics of new houses erected in the Borough during 1949 as supplied by the Borough Surveyor, Housing Manager or Sanitary Inspector.

1. BUILT BY LOCAL AUTHORITY :

(a) Traditional Brick Houses	22
(b) Converted plasterboard type huts	15

2. BUILT BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE :

Traditional Brick Houses	12
--------------------------	----

HOUSING ACT, 1936—UNFIT HOUSES

Total no. of dwelling houses inspected under the Housing Act 1936	149
---	-----

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made, Section II	nil
--	-----

No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
---	---

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted not to let again for human habitation	1
---	---

No. of families re-housed by the Council from houses subject to Demolition Orders or undertakings not to re-let again for human habitation	3
--	---

HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING

No. of houses found to be overcrowded during the year	4
---	---

No. of families dwelling therein	7
----------------------------------	---

No. of persons dwelling therein	35
---------------------------------	----

No. of cases of overcrowding relieved by the Council during the year	19
--	----

July 1950.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD
**SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE
 YEAR 1949.**

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS

Meat and Foods	...	...	...	...	401
Housing and Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	165
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	207
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	157
Shops and Factories	...	...	...	...	96
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	98
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	59
					1183

NOTICES SERVED

	Issued	Complied with
Informal	27	23
Statutory	—	—

MEAT INSPECTION

The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough for sale for human consumption and inspected was 4757. The number of "casualty carcasses" is given in the following table under the total figure for each class of animal and the magnitude of this problem is thus well illustrated.

TABLE I.

	CATTLE		CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
	exclg. Cows	Cows			
No. of animals inspected	646	205	247	3387	272
No. of "Casualties"	51	35	31	336	75
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned	8	7	3	—	4
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	65	27	—	—	19
Percentage of carcasses affected with tuberculosis	11.30%	16.59%	1.21%	—	8.49%
DISEASES OTHER THAN T.B.					
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned	7	7	3	39	17
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	171	24	2	183	32
Percentage of carcasses with diseases other than T.B.	27.55%	15.12%	2.02%	9.51%	18.01%

TABLE 2. DETAILS OF CONDEMNED MEAT SHOWN IN TABLE I

Meat Condemned	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Veal
Whole Carcases and Offals	29	39	21	6
Heads	62	4	17	—
Tongues	62	4	17	—
Pairs of Lungs	85	112	9	1
Livers	150	67	4	—
Plucks (complete)	—	7	3	—
Fats (Mesenteric)	19	—	11	—
Spleens	5	—	1	—
Hearts	—	2	1	1
Kidneys	11	—	10	—
Udders	5	—	—	—
Forequarters (whole)	8	3	—	—
Hindquarters (whole)	3	2	—	—
Other parts of Carcases	50	142	21	1

The following imported meat has also been condemned :

5 part hindquarters beef. 2 legs lamb.

The total weight of all meat condemned was 37,473lbs.

OTHER FOODSTUFFS

The following foodstuffs other than butchers' meat have also been condemned as unfit for human consumption :

COOKED MEATS

Corned Beef (6lb. tins)	80 tins	Rabbit	2 tins
Corned Mutton (6lbs. tins)	3 „	Brawn	8 „
Other canned beef, pork,		Meat Paste	4 jars
veal	37 „	Meat Extract	8 jars
Bacon and Ham	19 lbs.		
Sausages	81lbs.		
Meat Pies	16lbs.		

FISH

Wet Fish, Salmon	14	Salmon	4 tins
Crawfish	5 tins	Sardines	2 „
Herrings	2 „	Snoek	1 „
Mussels	q „	Fish Cakes	1 „
Pilchards	18 „	Fish Paste	92 jars, 11 tins

VEGETABLES

Beans	45 tins	Peas	48 tins
Beetroot	55 „		

FRUIT AND PRESERVES

Apples	1 tin	Orange Juice	1 tin
Grapes	5 tins	Tomato Juice	10 tins
Grapefruit	7 „	Tomatoes	98 „
Peaches	4 „	Jam	6 „
Pears	3 „	Marmalade	9 „
Plums	3 „	Mincemeat	2 jars
		Molasses	1 tin

MISCELLANEOUS

Cheese	3lbs. 10ozs.	Ice Cream	56 portion
Coffee essence	1 bottle	Sweets	25 lbs.
Evaporated and condensed milk	210 tins	Pickles	36 jars
Almond paste substitute	56lbs.	Sauce	3 bottles
Puddings	2 tins	Soup	3 bottles

ICE CREAM

There were 8 additions to the register of premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold, during the year. The growth of this trade was largely responsible for the decision to adopt Byelaws under Sec. 15 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 but the introduction of a revised version of the Model Byelaws and its adoption by the Council has to some extent deferred action in bringing the ice cream trade up to a reasonable standard of hygiene but an endeavour is being made to enforce the provision of hot and cold water supply for personal ablution and cleansing of utensils in all rooms where ice cream is manufactured or sold other than in prepacked individual portions and this condition is being enforced for all new entrants to the trade.

Owing to the divided opinion of authorities on the reliability of the methylene blue test for ice cream the sampling programme was curtailed but 9 samples were taken and submitted to this test but the results were disappointing.

No. of Samples	Grade 1.	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
9	—	—	3	6

MILK AND DAIRIES

On October 1st, 1949 the supervision of milk production was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture while responsibility for distributors other than producers remains with the Local Authorities. This transfer of powers is to be deplored as placing authority in the hands of a body more concerned with the interests of the producer rather than those of the consumer and indeed it appears that under the new set-up there is to be no routine inspection of undesignated producers and it is difficult to see how this can in any way further the production of clean milk. Fortunately the powers of sampling are in no way affected and the monthly sampling programme has been continued but unsatisfactory results from a producer's milk have to be referred to the Milk Regulations Officer.

During the year 174 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Resazurin Test but owing to the extremely warm summer 39 results had to be rejected owing to the average temperature exceeding 65° F on the day of sampling. Of the remaining samples the results were classified as under :

No. of Samples	Category A Marketable	Category B Salvage	Category C Reject
135	114 (84.44%)	11 (8.15%)	10 (7.41%)

28 samples of heat-treated milk were taken but in two cases the results had to be rejected owing to temperature conditions. Of the remaining 22 samples all passed the phosphatase test but in 9 cases there were methylene blue failures.

Owing to repeated complaints one retailer and wholesaler of heat treated milk were requested to appear informally before representatives of the Health Committee and as a result of this discussion conditions improved.

Bulk samples of milk from two herds and one of heat treated milk were tested biologically for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were reported negative.

The new registers comprise 9 registered dairies and 12 distributors operating in the Borough.

WATER SUPPLIES

The monthly sampling of all sources supplying the town has been continued during the year, samples of both chlorinated and unchlorinated water being taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. In all, 44 samples of chlorinated and 57 samples of unchlorinated water were taken and the results are tabulated below :

Type of Water	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Chlorinated	44	42	—	2
Unchlorinated	57	31	17	9

Repeat samples in the two cases of unsatisfactory chlorinated water produced satisfactory results. Samples of each of the five sources supplying the Borough examined chemically were in all cases reported satisfactory in this respect.

A sample of the chlorinated water in use at the Swimming Baths was reported as very satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Three licences for moveable dwellings were issued during the year and one application was refused.

HOUSING INSPECTOIN

No. of visits	...	...	...	...	165
No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	149
No. of houses inspected and recorded	...	...	...	...	129
No. of visits made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	145
No. of houses found unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	6
No. of houses not in all respects fit	...	...	...	...	78

REMEDY OF DEFECTS

No. of houses demolished as a result of action under Sec. 11 of the Housing Act 1936	4
No. of houses closed by accepting undertaking from owner	1
No. of houses repaired as a result of informal action	41
No. of new cases of overcrowding discovered	4
No. of cases of statutory overcrowding abated	19
No. of cases of statutory overcrowding remaining at end of year	17
Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	Nil.

The limited quota of new building allowed by the Government has once again meant that no definite progress has been possible in respect of the clearance of unfit houses but in the Autumn the Council accepted a recommendation to allocate 10 houses from the 1950 programme to rehouse tenants from an unfit area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Enquiries were carried out in respect of the following cases of infectious disease :

Scarlet Fever	66	Poliomyelitis	5
Tuberculosis	4	Suspected food poisoning	1

Appropriate measures for disinfection were taken in all cases and in connection with the Scarlet Fever epidemic one school was disinfected.

Disinfestation was carried out at one house which was infested with bugs.

RIVER POLLUTION

Early in September complaints were received of nuisances arising from a large quantity of dead fish in the River Welland from a pollution alleged to emanate from the Borough although the dead fish were found mainly in the neighbouring Rural District. Investigations revealed the possibility of the trouble being caused by the discharge of gas liquor from the local gas works into the river at a time of minimum flow when the river level had been lowered in connection with weed cutting operations by the Catchment Board. Investigations into the possibility of taking the gas liquor into the town sewers has already been commenced by the Borough Surveyor's Department and were still proceeding at the end of the year.

L. J. ROLL,
Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office.
June 1950.

